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60th Congress }
2d Session }

SENATE

{ Document
{ No. 767

ASBURY CHURCHWELL LATIMER

(Late a Senator from South Carolina)

MEMORIAL ADDRESSES



U.S. Sixtieth Congress
Second Session, 1908-1909

SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES
February 27, 1909

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
February 21, 1909

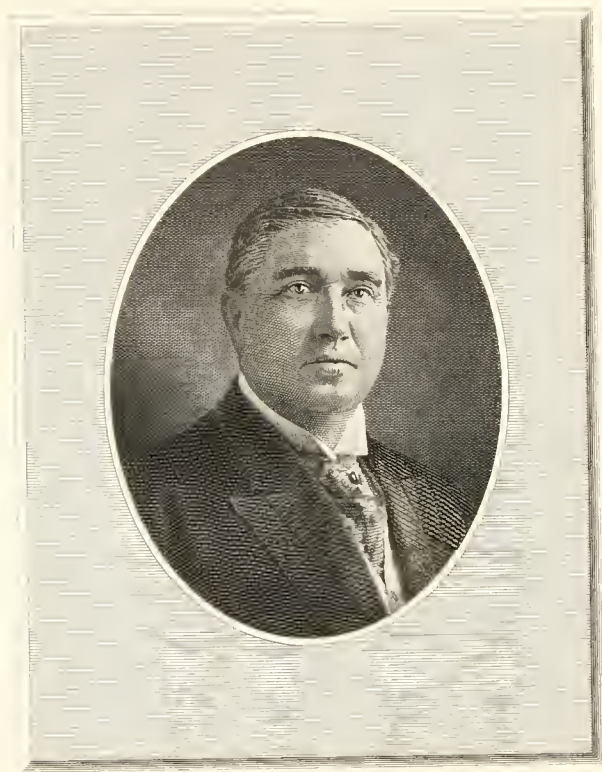


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DEATH OF HON. ASBURY C. LATIMER

PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE

THURSDAY, February 20, 1908.

Rev. Edward E. Hale, the Chaplain, offered the following prayer:

"For we know that, if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

And He who hath prepared us for this life "is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the spirit."

And we strive earnestly "that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of Him."

Let us pray. Father, Thou art pleased to show to us day by day, month by month, hour by hour, that we are in Thy presence always, and that we pass from this life to that larger life, yes, in an instant, in the twinkling of an eye.

Come to us to-day as we learn that another has gone from this circle and that Thou art pleased that he shall be serving Thee in that larger life. Speak to us, Father, and lead us as only a father can lead us, by Thine own care and love, that we may learn the lesson of life and of what we call death. We are always with Thee, and Thou art pleased from day to day to assign to us the duty next our hand or the change through which we shall live.

We ask for ourselves; we ask for those who are nearest and dearest to us; we ask for the State that he has served, and for

the nation, that with every such change we may come nearer to Thee and enter into Thy divine life. What we are here for is that Thy kingdom may come and Thy will may be done on earth as it is in heaven, and we accept the duty to enter into the life where a Father only can lead us, and to live and move and have our being in our God. In Him who is to us the resurrection and the life, the Savior of our lives, we ask it and offer it. Amen.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And remove from us our trespasses. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

MR. TILLMAN. Mr. President, his friends in this Chamber were startled Monday morning with the news that a surgical operation, which was very dangerous, had been performed upon my colleague, the Senator from South Carolina [Mr. LATIMER], and it is now my painful duty to announce that he never sufficiently rallied to make any headway and that he died this morning at 9 o'clock.

I send to the desk a series of resolutions, for which I ask immediate consideration.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT. The Senator from South Carolina submits the following resolutions, which will be read by the Secretary.

The resolutions were read by the Secretary, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with deep regret and profound sorrow of the death of the Hon. ASBURY C. LATIMER, late a Senator from the State of South Carolina.

Resolved, That a committee of ten Senators be appointed by the Vice-President to take an order arranging for the funeral of Mr. LATIMER.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect entertained by the Senate for his memory his remains be removed from Washington to South Carolina in charge of the committee, who shall have full power to carry these resolutions into effect.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these proceedings to the House of Representatives and request the House of Representatives to appoint a committee to act with the committee of the Senate.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The question is on agreeing to the resolutions.

The resolutions were unanimously agreed to.

The VICE-PRESIDENT appointed as members of the committee under the second resolution Mr. Tillman, Mr. Foster, Mr. Dillingham, Mr. Overman, Mr. Carter, Mr. Frazier, Mr. Smith, Mr. Dixon, and Mr. Johnston.

Mr. TILLMAN. Mr. President, I send another resolution to the desk, for which I ask immediate consideration.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The Senator from South Carolina submits an additional resolution, which will be read.

The Secretary read the resolution, as follows:

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Senator the Senate do now adjourn.

The resolution was unanimously agreed to, and (at 12 o'clock and 12 minutes p. m.) the Senate adjourned until to-morrow, Friday, February 21, 1908, at 12 o'clock meridian.

FRIDAY, *February 21, 1908.*

A message from the House of Representatives transmitted to the Senate resolutions of the House on the death of Hon. ASBURY C. LATIMER, late a Senator from the State of South Carolina.

The message further announced that the Speaker of the House had appointed Mr. Finley, Mr. Lever, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Legare, Mr. Johnson, of South Carolina, Mr. Aiken, Mr. Bennet, of New York, Mr. Burnett, Mr. Cook, of Colorado, Mr. Stafford, Mr. Rodenberg, Mr. Hinshaw, Mr. Pollard, Mr. Lee, Mr. De Armond, Mr. Fairchild, Mr. Webb, and Mr. Küstermann members of the committee on the part of the House to attend the funeral of the late Senator.

FRIDAY, February 5, 1909.

MR. TILLMAN. Mr. President, I desire to give notice that on February 27 I will ask the Senate to consider resolutions commemorative of the life and character of Hon. ASBURY CHURCHWELL LATIMER, late a Senator from the State of South Carolina.

SATURDAY, February 27, 1909.

The Senate met at 11 o'clock a. m.

The Chaplain, Rev. Edward E. Hale, offered the following prayer:

Behold I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Let us pray.

Father, Thou hast taught us this by Thy word in all ages by Thy well-beloved Son. To-day we are to go back in memory to those who have served Thee here and are now serving Thee in the larger service of that other world.

O God, be with us when we interpret history. Be with us Thou, when we look into the future to see what our own duty may be in these days that are before us. Show Thy servants in the Congress, show all persons in authority in the nation, what it is to serve the living God and to bring in Thy law for our law, Thy rule for our passion, Thy strength for our weakness, and Thy love to be with us always, that we may bear each other's burdens, that we may find the duty that comes next our hands, that we may enter into that service which is perfect freedom.

We ask it as Thine own children.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Mr. TILLMAN. Mr. President, I submit the resolutions I send to the desk, and I ask for their present consideration.

The resolutions were read, considered by unanimous consent, and unanimously agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow of the death of the Hon. ASBURY C. LATIMER, late a Senator from the State of South Carolina.

Resolved, That as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Senator, the business of the Senate be now suspended to enable his associates to pay proper tribute to his high character and distinguished public services.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate a copy of these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased Senator.

MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

ADDRESS OF MR. TILLMAN, OF SOUTH CAROLINA

MR. PRESIDENT: It is a little more than fourteen years since I was sent by the people of South Carolina to be one of their representatives in this Chamber. As things now are that is about one-third of the average lifetime of a man, and while during the time there have transpired many events of national importance, it seems but a brief period after all. Yet during this comparatively short span I have served here with five United States Senators from South Carolina, and after the 4th of March my sixth colleague will have taken the oath at the desk. It is a strange coincidence that all of these men who have come and gone save one were younger in years than I. Three of them have answered the roll call on the other side of the river. First in service, John Lowndes Manning Irby, bright, brave, witty, and genial; next, the knightly and courtly Joseph Haynesworth Earle, forceful, logical, chivalrous, and in every way well equipped for work in the forum or on the bench; last, ASBURY CHURCHWELL LATIMER, who, while denied in youth those advantages of education possessed by the other two, was in some respects the superior of either of them.

His was not a career which one would naturally expect to follow from childish environment and family tradition, as was the case of the other two. While of a good family, his opportunities, owing to the war, were poor and he early had to begin the struggle of life, which barred him from the education and that acquaintance with books which are in great degree essen-

tial in a public career. But the obstacles he overcame and the force of character and native mental vigor which he displayed marked him as a man who of necessity would have made an impress in any walk of life.

He was born in what was then Abbeville district, South Carolina, July 31, 1851—Abbeville, which has given birth to or been the homes of so many of South Carolina's illustrious sons—Calhoun, Cheves, Noble, McDuffie, Burt, Gray, McGowan, the two Wardlaws, Perrin, not to mention my present colleague. The original settlers of that county were Scotch-Irish Presbyterians and French Huguenots. Their descendants have well illustrated the sturdy traits and high ideals of their ancestors.

ASBURY CHURCHWELL LATIMER was only 14 when the war closed, and could not, on account of poverty, devote much time to getting an education, and early set about mapping out a career for himself and working toward making of life a success. He married quite young, one of the safest and best things for any man to do who wishes to preserve high ideals and gain the inspiration which alone comes from contact and association with good and noble women. He had a hard struggle for a few years as a farmer, but, possessed of great energy and a keen business sense, he soon outstripped most of his fellows in gathering a competence, and was so successful as a business man that in later years he had grown to be what in the South is considered wealthy.

After the death grapple upon which the people of South Carolina entered in 1876 with the carpetbaggers and negroes for the maintenance of white civilization, during which crisis Mr. LATIMER did his full duty, like many other farmers, he relapsed into indifference to public affairs. It was only in 1890, when 39 years of age, that he came to the front as an active political factor in his county and State. He had moved to Belton, in Anderson County, in 1880, and when what was known as the

"farmers' movement" or "reform campaign" shook the State from center to circumference, his sturdy good sense and forceful manner of speaking won him the confidence and support of his friends and neighbors, and he soon became an acknowledged leader.

It was during the year 1890 when I was a candidate for governor that I first became acquainted with him, and I have had, therefore, the fullest opportunity to observe and note with surprise and admiration the wonderful growth of the man. His ignorance of public affairs and current political events was then so great that it would have been thought utterly absurd that two years later he would be a successful candidate for Congress against one of the ablest lawyers and best speakers in the State, or that it would be possible for him to hold that high position with great credit to himself and entire satisfaction to his constituents for ten years, and then be elected to the United States Senate over a man so popular that he had been recently elected governor and who was withal a good orator and able lawyer. These achievements in politics were not brought about by chicanery or trickery of party conventions, but through the primary system, where the appeal must be made directly to the voters themselves. When he entered the race for Congress in 1892 I doubt if he had ever attempted to address at any length any assemblage other than a Sunday school or other religious gathering, for his bent of mind was in that direction. But with very little practice he developed into one of the best stump speakers we have ever had in the State.

When he entered Congress he began to study public questions, and the facility with which he mastered details and gained acquaintance with political and governmental history was well-nigh marvelous. Only those who know how ignorant and simple-minded he was eighteen years ago, as far as politics was concerned, could believe it possible that in so short a time

he would become versed in public affairs to such an extent that he could venture to enter into the debates in the other House and in the Senate with any degree of safety or success.

While a Member of the House he early became deeply interested in the subject of rural free delivery, and he went about pressing experiments along that line and urging its universal adoption with such vigor that he must be considered as one of the pioneers and a potent instrumentality in the inauguration of that great and beneficent system. Another matter with which his name will long be associated was the good-roads question. So well posted did he become on this subject that he was invited to many States other than his own to address meetings called for the purpose of advancing the construction of better highways.

He was an ardent friend of every measure looking to the advancement and uplift of the agricultural interests. Being a practical farmer, he understood the needs of other farmers and could the better set about aiding in legislation for their advantage. Early in his public career he became the staunch friend and supporter of the Agricultural Department, and was ever on the watch to aid in the development and growth of that great bureau.

Up to the age of 40 it is doubtful if any man in American politics had made so little preparation for a political career as he. There are not any that I know of, except Andrew Johnson, who with so small a beginning, achieved a more signal success as a public man. He and I entered the political arena together in 1890, and were on terms of intimacy and friendship without a break during the entire eighteen years since. I have little or no doubt that had he lived he would have been reelected to the Senate. And thus one of the strange and inscrutable manifestations of the Divine Providence is brought home to me, that a man so much my junior in years, and so strong and vigorous

in body and mind, should have been snatched from a life of great usefulness and promise in such an untimely and unexpected manner.

He was in this Chamber, healthy and strong, attending to his duties as a Senator, one week, and the next we were called upon to witness his sudden and sad death. Of a sturdy and vigorous stock and with every promise of a long and useful career, he departed from among us, again illustrating, as is so often the case, the beauty and pathos of the lines:

Man that is born of woman is of few days, and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down: he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not.

As the waters fail from the sea, and the flood decayeth and drieth up: So man lieth down, and riseth not: till the heavens be no more, they shall not awake, nor be raised out of their sleep.

It is idle for us to complain or to wonder at the inscrutable ways of the Creator. These things have always been and always will be. We come into being and enter upon the battle of life full of ardor and eager for the fray. In the midst of our work the summons comes, and we know not why we are called, but we must respond. So we pass along down to the grave and join the great and silent majority who have preceded us.

Senator LATIMER had his faults and weaknesses, as all of us have, but he was generous, brave, and had many noble qualities. He is gone and we mourn his loss. He can not come back to us, but we must go to him in a brief while.

The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,
And all that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave
Await alike the inevitable hour.
The paths of glory lead but to the grave.

ADDRESS OF MR. HEMENWAY, OF INDIANA

MR. PRESIDENT: I want to join my friends in adding a word of tribute to the memory of Senator LATIMER. I learned to know his real worth while serving with him in Congress, and I am told that in his early life he selected the motto, "that success lay not in the character of the work, but in the vim and thoroughness with which it was executed." What a worthy precept that is! And it is especially worthy in this day of tremendous business activity and wonderful national development.

Most men who fail, fail not because of inability or incapacity, but because of the lack of thoroughness and judgment with which they undertake to do things. Senator LATIMER stood high in the esteem of his colleagues in the Senate, and his work was highly appreciated. And we pay him the highest tribute when we say that he was a high-minded, honest, industrious Senator, who loved his home, his State, and his country.

ADDRESS OF MR. OVERMAN, OF NORTH CAROLINA

MR. PRESIDENT: On the 4th day of March, 1903, thirty Senators were sworn in and took their seats in this Chamber for a term of six years, and it is remarkable but sad to relate that in so short a space of time one-sixth of that number have passed into the great beyond. Of that number, together with nine others of our noble Senators who within that short time have taken their chamber in the silent halls of death, was Hon. ASBURY C. LATIMER, junior Senator from the State of South Carolina, in whose memory I, mindful of his long and patriotic public service, desire to add a few words to those which have already been said in testimony of his worth and character.

I would contribute a modest and simple tribute to our friend whose presence we miss and whose face we will see no more upon this earth. At the time he entered the Senate he was in the fifty-first year of his age—just in the prime of his manhood. Of splendid physique, healthy and robust, tall and stately, he gave promise from a human standpoint of outliving all of his class who were sworn in that day.

He came to the Senate from the House of Representatives, where he had served for ten years. Like most of our southern youths, at the close of the civil war he had but few advantages for an education, and only attended for a few months in the year what was known as the "old field" schools. He worked upon the farm. He came up through poverty, amidst great struggles and tribulations, without a profession, from the farm to reach the greatest office in the gift of the people next to the Presidency.

In his young manhood he became one of the most successful farmers in his community, and in 1878 he was happily married

to Miss Alice Brown, a niece of Governor, afterwards Senator, Joe Brown, of Georgia. She brought to him beauty, refinement, and culture. She cast her lot with him for better or for worse, and throughout his life from that time until his death she was an inspiration to him. He was successful in business and was looked upon as one of the leading citizens in his county.

When the great political upheaval came in South Carolina, when the fires of discontent against the old régime which had been for years smoldering in the hearts of the people, burst forth, when the dissatisfaction of the country people against what was called the "aristocrats"—the city people who for years had held all the important offices—at last found expression in the Farmers' Alliance meeting, in the public meetings, in meetings held in the little country schoolhouses all over the State, Mr. LATIMER, under the battle cry of "Tillman and reform," sprang into the thickest of the fight, arousing the people of his section to almost a frenzy, and he soon became the leader of that faction in his county. It was hard to find a man to run for the nomination for Congress against the brilliant George Johnstone, one of the best lawyers and best speakers in the State, and who was then serving his first term in Congress, and who, according to the old custom which prevailed there, was entitled to an indorsement and another term.

But some one must be found to oppose him, and at a late hour LATIMER entered the list and announced his candidacy. He met Johnstone in joint debate, and, to the surprise of himself and to the great satisfaction of his friends, it was soon seen that he was easily a match upon the stump for Johnstone; and when the returns came in LATIMER had won by a large majority. This was his first campaign.

He was simple, but forceful and direct in speech, and never deceived the people. He was plain, but earnest and straightforward. He understood the people and knew their wants. He promised them the reforms which they were demanding and did

what he could for their accomplishment. He impressed himself upon all who heard him, and they supported him gladly. Four times after that he was nominated for Congress, and elected without opposition. He loved the people and they loved him; and he loved his State. He was ever watchful of their interest, and was soon recognized, not only by the people of his own district, but by the people of the whole State, as one of the most useful members of his congressional delegation. He was always trying to do something for the people of South Carolina, and succeeded where many times before others had failed.

In 1902 he entered the race in the primary for the nomination for United States Senator against ex-Governor John Gary Evans and Senator John L. McLaurin; and after a bitter and most exciting campaign, in which he met upon the stump in joint canvass in every county of the State these able adversaries, everywhere winning the hearts of the people, he was chosen to succeed Senator McLaurin in this great body.

As he was a faithful Representative so he was a true and faithful Senator. He never tried to advertise himself. He made no pretensions to oratory, nor to greatness, but was unassuming and did his work well, untiring and zealous in doing what he thought was best for the interest of the people and the welfare of his country. He seldom joined in the debates in the Senate, but when he did what he said was practical and to the point.

While liberal and generous in his support of public measures intended to promote the prosperity of the whole country, in whatever was proposed to advance the interest of his State, he was zealous, alert, and his every effort was aroused and excited for its accomplishment.

He was sincere, generous, genial, warm-hearted, and kind in his nature. He was a member of the Methodist Church and attended regularly church services on Sunday morning. He loved to join in the singing of the beautiful sacred hymns, and

often his strong mellow voice could be heard in praise to God. He was charitable and gave cheerfully of his means to the support of the church and her institutions.

He was a devoted and indulgent father, a fond husband, and kind friend. He was never so happy as when at home on his farm in South Carolina, surrounded by his good wife, four charming daughters, and his noble son, of whom he was justly proud. It was there in the tranquillity of that sacred spot where he found his highest peace, and he knew from a glad and bright experience that earth holds no joy so sweet as the quiet contentment, the confiding love, and the hallowed associations which cluster around the ideal home.

But while we mourn his loss and miss his pleasant voice, his kindly manner, and genial companionship, we may well pause at the threshold of the touchingly beautiful home life which has been enshrouded in impenetrable gloom and the deepest sorrow.

In the presence of his grief-stricken loved ones and many sorrowing friends and a company of distinguished citizens who had come to pay their last tribute of respect, all that was mortal of Senator LATIMER was laid to rest in the modest little cemetery near his beautiful home in the little town of Belton.

He has passed on to join the great majority. It is not permitted for us to know where the loved ones go:

But this we know: Our loved and dead, if they should come this day,
Should come and ask us, "What is life?" not one of us could say
Life is a mystery as deep as ever death can be;
Yet, oh, how sweet it is to us, this life we live and see.

Then might they say, those vanished ones, and blessed is the thought,
"So death is sweet to us, beloved, though we may tell you naught;
We may not tell it to the quick, this mystery of death,
Ye can not tell us, if ye would, the mystery of breath."

The child who enters life comes not with knowledge or intent;
So those who enter death must go as little children sent.
Nothing is known. But I believe that God is overhead,
And as life is sweet to the living, so death is to the dead.

ADDRESS OF MR. CARTER, OF MONTANA

MR. PRESIDENT: On the 1st day of this month one year ago there was no more rugged, vigorous Senator in the Chamber than the junior Senator from South Carolina. Mr. LATIMER was physically strong and promised a long and useful career. In the course of our proceedings, before the month had closed, this Chamber was brought to silence by the announcement of his death. His surrender to the final impulse was less to be expected than that of any other Member of the body. He was a man of good habits who had led a regular life, although a great and indefatigable worker, and his general appearance, with enduring strength manifest in every movement of his stalwart and splendid frame, indicated that it would be a long series of years before the reaper would reach him.

But he passed away, and a committee of the Senate was appointed to attend the funeral services at his home. I was appointed a member of that committee and was a witness to the tribute of affection and respect paid to his memory by the people who knew him best in the rural district in South Carolina where he had lived throughout his life. It was a sad homecoming for the family; it was trying to the feelings and sentiments of the committee to witness the manifestations of deep sorrow and grief, for it was touchingly shown that Mr. LATIMER was a lovable man. Although rugged in manly strength, vigorous in mind, and stalwart in frame, he was of a gentle and kindly disposition. In all his relations with his colleagues deference for the wishes and feelings of others marked his deportment always. His every action betokened gentle breeding and high sentiments.

He entered this Chamber as a member of the Senate on the 4th day of March, 1903. He was a trained legislator, because he had ten years of previous experience in the House of Representatives. His work in that body was not of a perfunctory character, for at the very beginning he had undertaken work of a serious nature. He was the pioneer in the House of Representatives, as was the senior Senator from New Hampshire [Mr. Gallinger] the pioneer in the Senate, of a movement to secure national aid in the improvement of the post-roads of this country, and his efforts in behalf of that movement ceased only with his death. He did not live to see the movement successful, but he did live to see the country awakened to a realization of the necessity for some broad and comprehensive action with reference to the important subject to which he gave so much earnest attention.

His constant devotion to duty had much to do with the early appearance of the summons to lay down his burden. I doubt if the people of the country at large ever realized the exacting duties which devolve upon a Member of either House of Congress who is intent upon faithfully and fully discharging the duties of a Representative from a district or a Senator from a State.

I entered the House of Representatives twenty years ago, and within the last few minutes I have run over the roll call of the Senate and the House as then constituted. I find that of the membership of this Chamber in 1890 only five remain—the Senator from Rhode Island, the senior Senator from Illinois, two Senators from Maine, and the senior Senator from Colorado. Within the period of twenty years all have gone forth, either into private life or “over the river to rest under the shade of the trees.” But the dread reaper has garnered in a greater harvest than the call to duty in private life.

Of the membership of the Senate of twenty years ago 52 have died and only 28 survive, and of the 28 survivors 5 still remain members of the Senate. After the 4th day of March, a few days hence, only 4 will remain.

In the House of Representatives of that day, the House, of which the present presiding officer [Mr. La Follette in the chair] was a Member and a distinguished member of the Committee on Ways and Means, the roll call, if sounded now in the Chamber, could not be answered by many who were then distinguished legislators, statesmen, and citizens of the Republic. I recall our late lamented President, who was then chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means of the House; the great Speaker, whose wonderful achievements in parliamentary science challenged the attention of the world; Hon. Nelson Dingley from Maine; William McKinley, of Ohio; Thomas B. Reed, of Maine, and a line of men as distinguished in their day as men have been in the history of this Republic at any time. Men who should be living now in the full vigor of manhood have broken down, one after another, under the pressure of the exacting and oppressive life which must be led by the Senator or Representative who justly conceives his relation to his people or his State and to the eighty-odd million of people whose destiny and well-being are committed to the care of these two small bodies of men.

Added to the ordinary burdens of the day is that oppressive sense which comes from labor not only unrequited, but frequently misunderstood and often misrepresented. It sometimes happens, not through the malice of men, but through their thoughtlessness, that when every nerve is strained the Senator or Representative is set before the public as trying to do the very opposite of that which he is strenuously endeavoring to accomplish. Misrepresentation, harsh, cruel, and un-Christian-like criticism have much to do with breaking down the nervous

and physical organism of struggling men in public life. I think we can take it for granted that the expectancy of life in the arena of public affairs is much diminished by the combination of burden and unjust criticism.

Our late departed colleague and friend was of the earnest, tireless manner of man. His habits were good, his purposes were lofty, his devotion to his people unquestionable. Every day was with him a serious day and every task a serious task. He lived an honorable life, and in the good opinion of all who knew him best those who loved him best may find their greatest consolation.

Death does not end all, even to those who have no faith in an existence beyond the grave; for as a pebble cast into the middle of the sea will send a tiny warning wave to every shore, so will each good influence once set in motion reach to the uttermost ends of human experience. In the good he did, in the example he set, and in the things he achieved for his home, his neighbors, and his country, our lamented friend left a common legacy for all mankind.

ADDRESS OF MR. SMITH, OF MICHIGAN

MR. PRESIDENT: It has been very hard for me to realize that the late Senator from South Carolina has been called to his final home by death. He was the type of man that one would imagine might live always. Large, robust, strong physically and mentally, he looked as though he might stand as a great oak in the forest of life for many years to come.

I had the pleasure of knowing the Senator from South Carolina for many years, first as a Member of the House of Representatives, where I served with him for a decade, and when this place came to me and I entered the Senate for the first time as a new Senator I was led to a seat beside the late Senator from South Carolina.

In this historic Chamber I was instructed, cheered, comforted, and stimulated by him, and the friendship which had grown warm and valuable through the years of our acquaintance came as a benediction to me in this new place.

The late Senator from South Carolina was an extraordinary man. Full of fire and dash and impulse, yet he could control his feelings so admirably that few who came casually in contact with him ever realized the depth of his feeling or the scope of his desires.

Mr. President, I enjoyed the friendship of the late Senator LATIMER during the years of our acquaintance, and I rise to-day, informally, merely for the purpose of testifying to the beauty of his character, the strength of his friendship, the devotion of his heart and mind to the people he served, and especially the unflagging loyalty of that Senator to the State which sent him here.

South Carolina has sent to this Chamber many eminent men. Much of the history of our country is intertwined and interwoven with the experiences of South Carolina's representatives, and the distinguished senior Senator from that State [Mr. Tillman], whose colleague Senator LATIMER was, suffered a great personal loss when he was called away.

With that harmony and unity of purpose which should characterize the Representatives of States in this Chamber, they struggled together and won their victories together in this great field

South Carolina has contributed many able men to the public service and should be proud of her Senators now here. Mr. LATIMER was an honor to his State, an honor to his friends, and an honor to his country, and his memory will never be blotted from my mind.

I love to think of him as I saw him last here in this Chamber, with quiet dignity, unobtrusively moving among his fellows, vigilantly looking after the routine business of his State, and I love to think of him as I saw him across the sea, when, freed from that official care which is so burdensome to us all, he acted like a boy at play as he moved about in that recreation upon which he had set his heart; and the new experiences in strange lands kindled his soul and imparted life and refreshment to his last years.

Mr. President, Senator LATIMER was a fine type of the southern gentleman—quiet and unobtrusive; gentle, yet firm; gallant, yet modest; courteous, yet brave; and helpful to all with whom he came in contact. I hope, as this day is set apart in his honor, as a tribute to his memory, that it may also instill in the heart of every Senator his noble virtues, which shall ever remain as a rich heritage to the people of our common country.

ADDRESS OF MR. FLINT, OF CALIFORNIA

MR. PRESIDENT: It was my good fortune to be intimately associated with the late Senator from South Carolina during the brief period which we served together in the Senate. We were members of the Senate Committee on Public Lands, and in the work of this committee I had an excellent opportunity to observe his character, disposition, and methods of performing the duties which devolved upon him. He was, first of all, a practical man; and being endowed with a large measure of native shrewdness, wisdom, and what is known as "common sense," his opinion, advice, and suggestions were eagerly sought and greatly valued by his colleagues of the committee. He was particularly well fitted for service upon this committee, as he always took a great interest in the public lands of the country, and especially those lands adapted to agriculture, with a view to making such disposition of them as would be of the greatest possible benefit to the farmers of the country. Having been a prosperous farmer himself, he was an enthusiastic believer in the efficacy of an early experience and training upon the farm for the development of the highest type of citizenship.

He took great interest in the movement which was inaugurated some years ago for the enactment of a federal law for the reclamation of the swamp and overflowed lands of the country, along the lines of the irrigation act. With his usual energy and thoroughness, he contributed largely to the vast amount of data which was collected upon this subject, and was an enthusiastic supporter of the measure which was finally favorably reported by the Senate Committee on Public Lands.

Senator LATIMER was essentially a self-made man. The obstacles which confronted him in his early youth and during his young manhood, which deprived him of the opportunities for academic training, have been dwelt upon at length by others who have delivered eulogies upon his life, and need not be enlarged upon by me.

We read of Senator LATIMER's first activities in the political affairs of his State when he took part in the campaign of 1876. In 1890 he was elected chairman of the Democratic party in Anderson County, and was reelected in 1892. He administered the affairs of his party so successfully that he was urged to enter the race for lieutenant-governor, but declined. Shortly after this he was elected as Representative in Congress from the Third Congressional District of his State, and entered upon his career of ten years of unbroken service in that branch of the National Congress. As a climax to this conspicuous career he was elevated to the Senate and had served five years when unexpectedly and greatly to our sorrow he was taken from among us. His friends and colleagues were greatly shocked by his sudden and untimely death, and with one accord we gather here to-day to pay our respects and to honor his memory. Mr. LATIMER was only a little beyond the point which is usually considered middle life, and his sudden demise serves as a reminder of the uncertainties of life and the necessity for us to put forth our best efforts while we may in order that we may not leave our work undone. Though he died in the prime of life, his industrious habits, zeal, enthusiasm, and energy with which he pursued his daily tasks enabled him to perform an average man's work in the comparatively short period which he lived.

From an humble farmer lad to the highest place within the gift of the people of his State is a record of which anyone might well feel proud. When coupled with this we have a

career that was beset with difficulties and obstacles from the beginning, all of which were overcome and success attained, notwithstanding the lack of the early opportunities which are usually essential to success, it distinguishes the man as a leader among men and as one whose example might well be emulated by the youth of our land.

Senator LATIMER's friends and neighbors, and all those who knew him best, testify with one accord to his Christian manhood, his consistent living, his beautiful home life, and his loyalty and devotion to his friends, which, after all, are more to be desired than great riches or great honors.

ADDRESS OF MR. DOLLIVER, OF IOWA

MR. PRESIDENT: I appreciate very much the privilege, which has come to me by the invitation of the senior Senator from South Carolina [Mr. Tillman], to say a few words about the public services of the late Senator LATIMER. I have felt all the more drawn to this mournful duty, since the Senator an hour ago asked me to perform it, because during the whole period of his service in the House of Representatives I was his colleague and his friend.

In the early years of service in the House an opportunity, which never afterwards comes to us, is given of knowing with friendly intimacy those who are our associates in that service. So, it happened that, being young Members of the House, we were thrown much together and had that rarest of all the privileges of public life—the opportunity of close personal acquaintance. The House of Representatives, especially in those days, was a somewhat stormy and tumultuous body. It had its own standards for the recognition of ability and merit, and, tested by those standards, more severe, I think, than in any other arena of service in the world, Senator LATIMER speedily rose in the estimation of his colleagues to a position of influence and growing usefulness.

Shortly after I came to this body he was elected to the Senate, and it was a special pleasure and gratification to me to find that we were to work together upon the same committee—the Committee on Agriculture. Sitting there side by side until he passed from among us, I had a still further opportunity to know him and understand his motives and views of life and of duty, public and private, and to set a somewhat accurate esti-

mate upon his character and upon his talents. So on this day I am glad to speak of his career, that fine and faithful public service which ended so untimely with his death.

It has been said here that he was without educational advantages in his youth. I believe that little or no evidence of that can be found in the things that he said or in the things which he accomplished while in the Congress of the United States. Education can do much for every man; and yet Senator LATIMER brought to the work of his manhood a preparation still more valuable than the training of the schools—the discipline of hardship, the culture of experience, that excellent drill of daily labor which comes not from the academies of learning, but from a postgraduate course in the university of the world in which we live.

I was especially impressed during my acquaintance with him with the fact that while he belonged to the period following the rebellion, inheriting possibly many of its peculiar points of view, yet he seemed less encumbered by them than any man from the South whom I have ever known.

He was one of the pioneers of the new school of American political thought. He anticipated the disappearance of old theories. To him it seemed that the Government of the United States ought to be in a practical, working sense, the servant of the American people. He had the same interest that we all have in questions of war, and peace, and diplomacy, and commerce, and industry, but to his mind the largest political questions in America were the questions that concern the lives and the homes and the welfare of the 80,000,000 of men, women, and children who constitute the Government of the United States. So in his service in Congress hardly a trace of partisan dogma can be found. Nor did he ever find trouble in the Constitution when the task was before him to strengthen the foundations upon which society itself rests.

He had a tempestuous political education in the same school that brought into public life the great abilities of our honored friend, the senior Senator from South Carolina [Mr. Tillman]; but he did not in this Chamber, it appeared to me, emphasize any of the acute and vital issues, the extreme and explosive opinions, which were a part of the political environment of his earlier years. I do not mean that he deserted his convictions, or held a loose view of his party obligations. I mean, rather, that in the interest of the work he was trying to do here he was able to subordinate himself, to push aside the narrow and transitory things which often embitter and enfeeble our public life, in order to find a surer road to the accomplishment of higher and better ends which he pursued.

In both Houses of Congress his attention was given to everyday matters into which partisanship enters in no sense at all. He was a student of what may be called the "lowly problems of government." He recognized the fact that the great bulk of the business of the Congress of the United States is without any partisan color of any sort. And so it seemed to me that in these respects he dismissed more completely than any other man with whom I have been associated the notion that the Government of the United States is a partisan affair. We find him engaged in the obscure and unheralded work of the committees to which he was assigned, and the questions that interested him most were the questions that lie nearest to the earth and concern most intimately the daily lives and happiness of the American people. For example, he was an advocate, possibly the most influential in the Senate, of good roads for the people of the United States.

He had that vision which enabled him to see that the least excusable losses of American agriculture do not lie where we so often place them, but lie at the very doors of the people; and

the thing that seemed to impress his mind most as a member of the Committee on Agriculture was the fact that we lose more in the United States in hauling the crops which we raise into the town markets near which we live than we afterwards do by the conspiracies of the market place or the abuses of interstate commerce. I have often heard him say that if he could realize his dream of a model system of internal transportation on the common public highways of the country, he would have done more good than anybody could hope to do by legislative reforms of railway management in the United States.

He was equally interested in the problems of popular education, especially in the South, and most of all the modern efforts to make our schemes of elementary education respond to the needs of our industrial life. So he labored quietly and modestly, without ostentation or display of any sort, in those tasks which appeared to him to represent in a comprehensive sense the living questions in which the Government of the United States ought to concern itself.

For myself I not only respected his character, but I tried to study the attitude of his mind and to appreciate that fine philosophy of our affairs which enabled him thus to throw aside partisan motives, to dismiss from his mind almost entirely the spectacular questions which are most attractive in our public life, and devote himself with earnest attention to the humbler questions which bring the Government of the United States near to the people, making it responsive to their needs and effective in the guidance of their social progress. It was against his homely intuitions that the civilization of one century should be left helpless on account of a meager understanding of a Constitution made by the people of another.

He will be remembered in both Houses of Congress for his stalwart strength of mind and of body. Above that, he will be

remembered for a certain modesty and fidelity of character which made him a reliable worker in whatever field was assigned to him in the business of the United States.

I do not know what his religious views were. He had a characteristic reticence as to the life he lived within himself. I never heard him say a word in all our conversations about that, but if his actions interpreted his faith—and the acts of men are the surest expression of their faith—we do not go astray in paying to him the loving tribute which belongs to a broad-minded patriot, a representative citizen, and an upright Christian man.

ADDRESS OF MR. GARY, OF SOUTH CAROLINA

MR. PRESIDENT: Men of exalted character and civic virtue have ever been thought worthy of admiration and their memory worthy of perpetuation. Throughout the land we have erected and are each day erecting monuments in honor of those who have been conspicuous for the possession of such attributes. It is the boast of Rome that the Via Appia and the Via Sacra are lined with monuments to her consuls, generals, and senators, men who have done some service for their country.

Impelled by the same sentiment and actuated by the same desire to put on record our appreciation of exalted character and worthy citizenship, we have this day paused in our labors and laid aside our calendar to honor one who exemplified in the highest degree exalted character and worthy citizenship—one who has done some service for his country. Surely, Mr. President, on such occasion I should add my voice to the chorus of praise of him whose people are my people, whose friendship I had the honor to enjoy, and who has done much service for the State I in part represent.

A distinguished queen's counsel has said:

The highest gospel is a biography—

And he well adds—

So is the life of every good man.

A casual study of the career and character of our departed friend will demonstrate how well his life illustrates this aphorism. That he was a good man no one will deny. When an account shall have been given of the deeds done in the flesh many will be the acts of benevolence and deeds of kindness to his credit; for, like Abou Ben Adhem, he loved his fellow-man.

He was ever ready to lend a helping hand to such as might need his assistance. But his was no ostentatious giving of charity that the world might see and applaud, but rather after the fashion of that enjoined in Scripture, which says:

When thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth.

Not only was he a good, a benevolent, and a kind-hearted man, but he was a man of statesmanlike qualities as well.

"He dipt into the future far as human eye could see," and ere it was too late he sounded the first warning note to the people of my State against that steadily deteriorating process which goes on on every hand apace—that process of whose danger Horace Bushnell once said:

The constant importation, as now, into our country of the lowest orders of people from abroad, to dilute the quality of our natural manhood, is a sad and beggarly prostitution of the noblest gift ever conferred on a people.

Senator LATIMER entertained similar sentiments, and he proclaimed them in no uncertain terms. May we, Mr. President, have the wisdom to heed his timely warning while we are yet a homogeneous people.

Then, too, Mr. President, as another instance of his statesmanlike qualities and of his desire to promote the welfare of the masses, we might mention his insistent urging of our people to build better roads and build them upon scientific principles. To you people of the North this may mean but little, because you have them already, but to us of the South, to us who for centuries have been accustomed to and satisfied with roads that are a hindrance to progress and the development of our natural resources such stimulation as was given by his eloquent tongue was sadly needed. With us he was the pioneer along this line, and at times he seemed almost as one crying in the wilderness. His insistence and eloquence have already borne fruit, and had

he lived a few years longer he would have witnessed a full realization of his hopes.

Did time permit I might recount the many blessings our people now enjoy as a direct result of his work in establishing free delivery of our mails in the rural districts. In this, if he was not the pioneer, he was, at least, the earnest, insistent, and effective worker. Indeed, Mr. President, his unceasing efforts seemed always to be toward bettering the condition of the masses.

It has been said, however, that he was not an educated man. If by the term "educated" is meant "trained in college walls," the claim will be readily granted. But, sirs, if education signifies such training as fits one to think energetically and with concentration along right lines, then he was essentially an educated man, albeit that education was not received in college walls nor at the feet of some mighty Gamaliel. He was what might be termed a "self-educated man."

Born and reared on a farm, inspired by the observations of nature in its purest form and by the teachings of God-fearing parents, he early learned to cherish high ideals and lofty aims. With such a foundation upon which to build and being possessed of robust health, strong common sense, and a keen and unerring perception of human nature, he felt less than most men that lack of college training, regarded by some as indispensable to the highest development. He was, indeed, another illustration of what Burns so aptly says:

The pith o' sense and pride o' worth
Are higher ranks than a' that.

It is true that he took no conspicuous part in the great debates in this Chamber, yet he was always at his post of duty, ever ready to take advantage of any opportunity to befriend his people and ameliorate the conditions of the masses. But of his

work as a legislator and of his usefulness as a Member of this body, there are others better qualified to speak than I.

But it seemed fitting, Mr. President, that I, who have known him from early manhood till his untimely end, should speak of him as a friend, neighbor, and citizen. It seemed to me that it is proper that I, who was in a position to observe it, should convey to this body some idea of the profound sorrow that was felt and manifested throughout my State when it was learned that ASBURY C. LATIMER was no more. When it was learned, Mr. President, that the Black Camel had knelt at his door, that in the midst of life, duty, and usefulness his sun of life had gone down, the people felt that their friend and tribune had gone, that they had sustained a loss they could ill afford. But his career is ended, his noble work is done, and the world is better for his having lived in it. By his work the great masses of common people were made better and happier, more contented and more comfortable. The present condition of progress, improvement, and happiness in the rural districts is a constant reminder of his friendship for the people, and on account of this his memory will ever be cherished by them. But "let us seek no further his merits to disclose."

Let us conclude this inadequate tribute by repeating, as applicable to him, the words of one of South Carolina's most eloquent sons, who said of another:

He acted throughout life on the maxim that in morals it is more to deserve than to command success.

He has left to his children, to the State of his birth and home a precious legacy of the lesson of his life. May it be an inspiration to us all, may we strive to imitate his worthy example, and may his untimely taking off be to us a reminder that the young may die, the old must die, and the wisest knoweth not how soon.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE

THURSDAY, *February 20, 1908.*

The House met at 12 o'clock noon.

The Chaplain, Rev. Henry N. Couden, D. D., offered the following prayer:

Our Father in heaven, we find ourselves completely involved in the laws which Thou hast made. Thou art infinite; we are finite. Thou knowest the beginning and the end. We know only a little, hence we come praying for light that we may measure up to the obligations Thou hast laid upon us and fulfill all the conditions of life. "Thou giveth snow like wool; Thou scattereth the hoar frost like ashes. Thou casteth forth ice like morsels. Who can stand before Thy cold?"

In the midst of the rigors of winter hundreds are forced to idleness, without the means of subsistence. Give us light that we may solve the economic, social, and industrial problems which confront us, to the end that all who will may work and subsist.

Our hearts are bowed in sorrow, in that the Death Angel has visited our Congressional family and taken from us one who served with distinction on the floor of this House and was at his taking serving with equal distinction in the Senate Chamber.

Our sympathies go out to his colleagues and friends. Especially do we pray for the bereaved family, his wife and children. God give them grace, hope, and patience that in Thine own good time they shall meet again in a family reunion and stay in his presence forever, and glory and honor and praise be Thine. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A message from the Senate announced that the Senate had passed the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with deep regret and profound sorrow of the death of the Hon. ASBURY C. LATIMER, a late Senator from the State of South Carolina.

Resolved, That a committee of ten Senators be appointed by the Vice-President to take order arranging for the funeral of Mr. LATIMER.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect entertained by the Senate for his memory his remains be moved from Washington to South Carolina in charge of the committee, who shall have full power to carry these resolutions into effect.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these proceedings to the House of Representatives and request the House of Representatives to appoint a committee to act with the committee of the Senate.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Senator the Senate do now adjourn.

Mr. FINLEY. Mr. Speaker, the House has been officially informed by communication from the Senate of the death of Hon. ASBURY C. LATIMER, junior Senator from the State of South Carolina, who departed this life at Providence Hospital, in this city, at 9.15 o'clock this morning. At some future time I will ask the House to set apart a day at which time proper tribute can be paid to the life, character, and public services of South Carolina's distinguished son. I ask, Mr. Speaker, the adoption of the resolutions which I send to the Clerk's desk.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the House of Representatives has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. ASBURY C. LATIMER, late a Senator of the United States from the State of South Carolina.

Resolved, That a committee of nineteen Members of the House, with such members of the Senate as may be joined, be appointed to attend the funeral.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late ASBURY C. LATIMER the House of Representatives do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the adoption of the first three resolutions.

The question was taken, and the resolutions were unanimously agreed to.

The SPEAKER. The Chair announces the following committee.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Finley, Mr. Lever, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Ellerbe, Mr. Legare, Mr. Johnson of South Carolina, Mr. Aiken, Mr. Bennet of New York, Mr. Burnett, Mr. Cook of Colorado, Mr. Stafford, Mr. Rodenberg, Mr. Hinshaw, Mr. Pollard, Mr. Lee, Mr. De Armond, Mr. Fairchild, Mr. Webb, and Mr. Küstermann.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the last resolution.

The question was taken, and the resolution was unanimously agreed to.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 11 minutes p. m.) the House adjourned.

MONDAY, *February 1, 1900.*

Mr. FINLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the consideration of the resolution which I send to the Clerk's desk.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from South Carolina asks for the present consideration of a resolution, which the Clerk will report.

The Clerk read as follows:

House order No. 23.

Ordered, That at the conclusion of other special orders Sunday, February 21, there be a session of the House for the delivery of eulogies on the life, character, and public services of the Hon. ASBURY C. LATIMER, late a member of the United States Senate from the State of South Carolina.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The question was taken, and the resolution was agreed to.

SUNDAY, *February 21, 1900.*

The House met at 12 o'clock m., and was called to order by Mr. SMITH of Iowa, as Speaker pro tempore.

The following prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Rev. Henry N. Couden, D. D.:

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being, we would pour out the oblations of our hearts in gratitude and praise to Thee, the dispenser of all good gifts, and hallow Thy name in a faithful and unselfish devotion to Thee and our fellow-men, and thus prove ourselves worthy of all the gifts Thou hast bestowed upon us. We thank Thee for that spirit down deep in the hearts of men which recognizes and appreciates the nobility of soul in their fellows, which displays itself in a faithful service to the public weal, for this special service to-day, sacred to the memory of men who have conspicuously served their country in the Congress of the United States, and passed on to their reward. Grant, O most merciful Father, that their example may serve as beacon lights to guide us and those who shall come after us to high and noble living. Comfort the friends, colleagues, and families of the departed, and help them to look forward with bright anticipations to that larger life beyond the grave, where there shall be no more parting, and where God shall wipe all tears from all faces, and where peace and happiness shall reign forever. In Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will read the next order. The Clerk read as follows:

On motion of Mr. Finley, by unanimous consent—

Ordered, That at the conclusion of other special orders Sunday, February 21, there be a session of the House for the delivery of eulogies on the life, character, and public services of the Hon. ASBURY C. LATIMER, late a member of the United States Senate from the State of South Carolina.

Mr. FINLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask consideration of the resolutions which I send to the Clerk's desk.

The Clerk read as follows:

House resolution 585.

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. ASBURY CHURCHWELL LATIMER, late a member of the Senate of the United States from the State of South Carolina, which occurred at Providence Hospital in the city of Washington February 20, 1908.

Resolved, That the business of the House is now suspended, that opportunity may be given to pay tribute to his memory.

Resolved, That as a particular mark of respect to the deceased, and in recognition of his distinguished public services, the House, at the conclusion of the memorial exercises of the day, shall stand adjourned.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

Resolved, That the Clerk send a copy of these resolutions to the family of the deceased.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the resolutions.

The question was taken, and the resolutions were unanimously agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. Finley] will take the chair.

MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

ADDRESS OF MR. JOHNSON, OF SOUTH CAROLINA

MR. SPEAKER: Once more the Representatives of eighty millions of people assemble, neither to engage in partisan debate nor to consider great questions of state. This occasion is one which demands no call of the "yeas and nays." It is of the highest privileged nature accorded any issue in this presence.

In these closing days of the session appropriation bills require early attention and great economic questions press hard for consideration and solution, but they have no bearing on the purpose of this assembling. We are here to do honor to the memory of a deceased colleague, the late Senator ASBURY CHURCHWELL LATIMER.

It is a fit occasion for serious contemplation of the fate that, sooner or later, awaits us all. For man must die.

Earth, that nourished thee, shall claim
Thy growth, to be resolved to earth again;
And, lost each human trace, surrendering up
Thine individual being, shalt thou go
To mix forever with the elements. * * *
Thou shalt lie down
With patriarchs of the infant world—with kings,
The powerful of the earth—the wise, the good,
Fair forms, and hoary seers of the past—
All in one mighty sepulcher. The hills,
Rock ribbed and ancient as the sun; the vales,
Stretching in pensive quietness between
The venerable woods; rivers that move
In majesty; and the complaining brooks
That make the meadows green; and poured round all,
Old Ocean's gray and melancholy waste—
Are but the solemn decorations, all,
Of the great tomb of Man.

The late Senator LATIMER was born near Lowndesville, Abbeville County, S. C., on July 31, 1851. Just one year ago yesterday he died in this city. How strikingly did his death exemplify that "in the midst of life, we are in the midst of death." In the prime of mature manhood, with the future beckoning alluringly onward, seized with a sudden malady, in a startlingly short interval of time this man of splendid physique, robust constitution, and superb vitality passed away like "the foam on the fountain, the dew on the heather." Born on a farm and reared as hundreds of his neighbors and thousands of the citizens of his State, young LATIMER received his education from the country school. He then engaged in farming. He was successful in his pursuits and soon became a substantial citizen. In recalling what impressions of our departed colleague remain most striking on us, we are reminded that—

If our virtues
Did not go forth of us, 'twere all alike
As if we had them not. Spirits are not finely touch'd
But to fine issues, nor Nature never lends
The smallest scruple of her excellence
But, like a thrifty goddess, she determines
Herself the glory of a creditor,
Both thanks and use.

Senator LATIMER's personality was that of the distinctly persevering type—forceful and aggressive, forever pressing forward. He was a typical homespun man, who overcame great obstacles deemed insurmountable by many in his early struggles, and from his youth on his individuality left its impress with each encounter with his fellow-man. LATIMER was not reckoned a power in the politics of his State until the early nineties. Up to that time the people of Belton, S. C., his friends and neighbors, considered him a safe, prudent, thrifty farmer, of practical ideas and plenty of energy, which combination brought a fair degree of success to his agricultural pursuits.

In 1892 he was the head official of the Farmers' Alliance and became a candidate for Congress against George Johnstone, who is a ripe scholar and a superb orator. The dogged tenacity of purpose, aggressiveness, and perseverance which characterized the entire life of the man wonderfully demonstrated itself in the campaign, and the outcome of the race was a safe majority for LATIMER over the brilliant Representative who had acquired something of a national reputation, even in one term of service in this body. Entering the House in the Fifty-third Congress, he served continuously throughout the Fifty-seventh, declining then to stand for reelection after his ten years of service for his people.

His zeal, energy, and perseverance as a Representative were stamped with the seal of approval by the people of his district, for they returned him every time he sought that honor. In the beginning of his career in Congress, Senator LATIMER was far more familiar with "Clark's Commentaries on the Bible" and the rules of the Methodist Church than he was with the Constitution of the United States and the rules of the House of Representatives. Realizing the lack of certain training for participation in great debate and without essaying the rôle of a student of great economics, he never attempted any "floor-leader" actions. But in the line of official duty immediately concerning his people—their wants and wishes—he served them diligently and effectively. And the bonds of intelligent sympathy and interest between them grew steadily as the years rolled by.

Six years ago he was chosen United States Senator from South Carolina in the primary election, defeating five of the most prominent men in the State who were aspirants for the honor. The same quiet, unostentatious course that characterized his service in the House was perseveringly pursued in the

Senate Chamber. There was nothing of the statesman of the old school about LATIMER, and he made no pretensions that there were. He made no plays to the galleries, but quietly and faithfully attended to his official duties, serving the people of his State to the best of his ability, without attempting to focus the limelight upon himself. Whenever he took the floor it was to say something of immediate purpose affecting some legislation his people were interested in or would be benefited by.

In addition to his individuality and perseverance, he was distinctly a practical man, possessed of an abundance of good, hard common sense. And although the farmer lad grew up to fill one of the greatest offices within the gift of the people of his State, he remained throughout his continued honors and promotions the same strong, natural type of man. His fifteen years of service in Congress made him none the less affable and approachable to his old friends and neighbors and the constituents of his State. There was a native ease and simplicity and dignity in his mannerism and bearing.

Some writer has said of Robert Burns:

No wonder the people of Scotland loved Burns as, perhaps, never people loved a poet. He not only sympathized with the wants, the trials, the joys and sorrows of their obscure lot, but he interpreted these to themselves and interpreted them to others, and this, too, in their own language. He made the poorest plowman proud of his station and his toil, since Robbie Burns has shared and sung them. He awoke a sympathy for them in many a heart that otherwise would never have known it.

Even so, the farm lad of Abbeville County, S. C., strove against his early obstacles and disadvantages of thorough mental training for the important work of national legislation; yet with his personality and perseverance, he pressed forward, not backward, and, finding a seat in the Nation's Council by the will of his people, he exerted his energies and position to be of practical benefit to them. And the same zeal and fidelity marked his career in the Senate. His advocacy of good roads

and the improvement of the rural free delivery so continuously, measures with which he was familiar and could exert to its furthestmost his zeal and influence in Congress, constrain one to the thought that it was the crying need for just reforms in the far-away rural sections of his old congressional district and his State that incited LATIMER to offer whatever energies were at his command for the lasting benefit and advantage of his people.

And in the heyday of his manhood—strong, hale, hearty—in the zenith of his public career, rounding out a term in the Senate of the United States, apparently with a long future of continued success and honors awaiting him, the “grim ferryman” bade this distinguished mortal embark in that mysterious craft bound for that “bourne from whence no traveler returns.” Thus died the kind father, the affectionate husband, the devout churchman, the practical legislator.

What is death
To him who meets it with an upright heart?
A quiet haven, where his shattered bark
Harbors secure, till the rough storm is passed,
Perhaps a passage overhung with clouds,
But at its entrance, a few leagues beyond
Opening to kinder skies and milder suns
And seas pacific as the soul that seeks them.

ADDRESS OF MR. BENNET, OF NEW YORK

MR. SPEAKER: It is sometimes difficult to realize that the permanent absence from among us which we call death has overtaken a friend. So to-day many of us find it difficult to realize that the absence from among us of Senator LATIMER is anything more than one of those temporary separations of friends so common among those who are in public life.

My acquaintance and friendship with Senator LATIMER were brief. I knew him casually as a pleasant, active, friendly member of the Senate until in the closing days of the Fifty-ninth Congress we were both appointed—he by the President of the Senate, I by the Speaker of this House—as members of the Immigration Commission. The duties of that commission naturally threw us into close connection. I learned not only to regard him with respect, but with esteem and affection. There was that about him, as the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. Johnson] has mentioned, which drew to him the regard of men. His great frame incased a great heart, a great feeling, a great sympathy.

I can see him now in our earlier days on the steamer crossing the Atlantic, when we were, as members of a commission, to be a great deal together, forming the acquaintance of each other. I can even yet bring back the memory of the long consultations, in which his native ability, rising far above the deficiencies of an early education, drove and drove and drove until the knowledge he desired upon any particular point was safely in his possession, and once in his possession, never forgotten.

I have said that he had early deficiencies of education. He had no early or other deficiencies of comprehension. He was

capable of ideas embracing propositions of the greatest scope. The gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. Johnson] has alluded to his interest in good roads. I have never known a man, here or elsewhere, to entertain a more ambitious project than that of Senator LATIMER in relation to the good roads of the United States. Upon the subject of good roads and agriculture he was always intent.

His long training and deep interest in those subjects made him translate nearly every subject into the elements of either. I served with him on a subcommittee of the commission in southern Italy, in the island of Sicily, and I undertake to say that before he left Italy, assigned as he subsequently was to northern Italy, to which committee I was not, he knew the value of farm lands from one end of Italy to the other, the productiveness of the acreage in each part, the crops which would grow best everywhere, and it was nothing for him when journeying over the magnificent roads of southern Italy to stop the carriage and have some one who accompanied us with a camera to get out and take view after view of those splendid roads, to assist, as he frankly said, in the education, when he got back, of the American public on the subject of the benefit of good roads.

He was an intense man. It is not extraordinary to me why he succeeded; he could not help success with the force and the power of his great intellectuality and the interest which he had in all the subjects within the scope of his desires. Not only did he translate everything he saw abroad into the terms of agriculture and good roads, but, above all, he translated them into terms of betterment for the people of his State. He was one of those men who were useful in service for his community. He gauged all things possible by whether it would be better or worse for the people whom he represented; and as to whether the interests of South Carolina would be bettered or not by the things that he saw, so he judged them.

A simple, kindly man, but full at all times of natural dignity. From amongst the farming class of the country, the sturdiest class in our country, this man came; but he was at home everywhere. I have stood with him before high officials and watched his conferences with them. I have been with him at one conference or audience with a king of a European country; and it was all the same with Senator LATIMER, whether it was a colleague here, a farmer in his district in South Carolina, or the King of Italy, surrounded by the pomp and circumstance of his great office.

The gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. Johnson] has alluded to the fact that when he came to Congress he was, perhaps, more familiar with Clark's Commentaries on the Bible than he was with either the Constitution or Jefferson's Manual. The familiarity with the commentaries and with the Book concerning which the commentaries were written, continued to the end. On the steamer going over, we Americans of the commission rather surprised, I think, some of the other passengers. On the Sunday afternoon, in addition to the usual morning services, we had gathered around the organ and spent a considerable season in singing familiar gospel hymns. It was a service in which the Senator delighted. I did not at the moment exactly understand it, but I subsequently came to understand it fully. I have been with him in church in a foreign land, and I can testify not only to the depth and intensity of his religious feeling, but to the fact that he carried it with him under foreign flags, and it was as large a part of his daily being as any conditions could have been. I say that I did not at the time understand entirely his liking for these simple hymns; but when, just a year ago, he was taken from us and I was one of those appointed by this House to attend his funeral service at Belton, I gained a wider and more thorough comprehension.

My estimate of Senator LATIMER, already high, was raised by the sight of the church edifice in which he had worshipped. He had never permitted himself to be tempted away from the denomination which he had joined in his youth, though in the town in which he lived it was neither the most popular nor the largest. Around that simple country church no other atmosphere was possible than an atmosphere in which would flourish a real love for and joy in the simplest kind of service of the true gospel. Our friend who has left us was a good husband and a kind and indulgent father. He had few faults, few defects. He was faithful in all things—faithful to his constituents, faithful to his family, and faithful to his State. Like all of us, he had his obvious limitations, but within those limitations he left no one thing undone.

We have heard earlier in the day, in connection with the services in behalf of Senator ALLISON, of the "joy of service." There is such a joy; and during his fifteen years of service in either branch of this National Congress, that joy of service was possessed by Senator LATIMER and was his chief and greatest compensation for what he did here.

It is well for a country, well for a State, well for a district, when its Representatives are cast in such a mold. He represented at the same time all that was valuable in the older thought and all that was best in the newer. He was conservative where conservatism could be of benefit, and yet not ashamed, when his belief was formed as to the efficacy of a particular project, to be a radical of the radicals in regard to that.

We can not mourn our friend, because we do not know; beyond the mystery of the dawning of the new life we can not look. This brief, flitting life here is all into which our mortal eye can look, and we can either mourn or rejoice as the life here was. There is none among us who, on the day when he shall separate himself from this life, can look back across the days

of his pilgrimage with a clearer conscience and a better sense of duty well performed than Senator LATIMER. With a life like that, why should we mourn for him who is gone? We can rejoice for all the good that was in those fifty-six years. We can offer to those whom he has left sorrowing behind him the consolation that in his life he had many friends; that in his death he has lost none; that his works are written in the history of his country; and that by his living he has contributed something to the betterment of the world—to his part of the world—and so far as in him lay to all the world—contributed his part toward the solving of the great problems, contributed the wisdom and shrewd common sense which Providence gave him to the everyday business of this great legislative body, and to the management and control of things here. As it is, his record is made, and in the golden dawn of the far-off future, when again we shall see him face to face in another world, our desire should be to take to that meeting as good a record as has our friend who left us.

ADDRESS OF MR. LEVER, OF SOUTH CAROLINA

MR. SPEAKER: Death walks hand in hand with life. The one is the shadow of the other. Side by side with the strong, robust, healthy, is the ever-present companion of dissolution, decay, death. This fact was never more strikingly illustrated than when, just one year ago, the startling announcement came that Senator ASBURY CHURCHWELL LATIMER was no more. This announcement was a distinct and decided shock to his friends and to the people of South Carolina, who had so long honored him with the highest gifts in their possession. Born and reared upon the farm, trained in early life to invigorating outdoor manual labor, of strong and robust physique, with a constitution that seemed proof against all attack, accustomed to spending his vacation periods in the health-giving, health-preserving atmosphere of upper South Carolina, of even temperament, free from enervating worries, of temperate habits, and genial disposition, he would have been last chosen, in the body of which he was a Member, for grim death's visitation. Surely in the midst of life we are in death, and surely we know not the hour when that other unknown and unknowable life shall begin. But to him who is strong in Christian faith, death ceases to be a fearful contemplation, and instead becomes a friendly pilot of the weary and worn, the hungry and thirsty, on the pathway from the life earthly to the life heavenly. The Apostle Paul, the greatest of all the inspired philosophers, in his First Epistle to the Corinthians, robs death of its sting by showing it to be the necessary step from corruption to incorruption, from mortality to immortality, from trials and tribulations, cares and worries,

to rest, peace, and endless happiness. How beautifully it is put; how comforting it is:

There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory.

So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption;

It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power:

It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

And so it is written, the first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.

Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.

The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven.

As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly.

And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood can not inherit the kingdom of God, neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

Senator LATIMER inherited his love for and interest in agriculture from his father, who was a practical farmer of Abbeville County, S. C., which has given to the State and nation such a large proportion of those who have labored in war and in peace for the common good. Throughout his life, and especially his public life, the late Senator directed his thoughts and energies to the betterment of farm conditions in his native State. He himself was a practical and most successful farmer. Having early learned the lesson that the prosperity of the southern farmer was greatly retarded because of a lack of improved methods in farm management, he put into practice upon his own farm every theory of farm cultivation and farm product utilization which had been put into successful operation by the best farmers of the country. It is said that his farm was, in a measure, the model for his entire community, and to this extent

and in this respect his influence for good will be felt for years to come.

Senator LATIMER was the product, politically, of the revolution of 1890, which found its inspiration and leadership in the present distinguished senior Senator from South Carolina. He joined earnestly and heartily in that spectacular movement which must always remain a most interesting study to the historian. He was elected to Congress in 1892, and served in this body for ten consecutive years. It can not be said of his service that it was brilliant; he did not aspire to leadership, nor did he enter into the discussion of academic political questions. It can be said of him, however, in entire truthfulness and without the ordinary eulogistic fulsomeness, that he was an effective and energetic worker.

Assiduous in attention to the details of his district work, prompt in the dispatch of business, endowed with plenty of common sense, and ambitious to serve faithfully the people who had honored him, at the end of his ten years of congressional work he was perhaps the most popular man in his entire district. That popularity had extended somewhat to the State, so that when in 1902 he entered the race for the United States Senate in the Democratic primary against five of the very ablest men of the State, it was not surprising that his candidacy was received with considerable cordiality wherever he went. The campaign was hard and exciting, but through it all Senator LATIMER bore himself in such manner as to favorably impress his personality and the integrity of his purposes upon the people, with the result that he was nominated by a handsome majority, and subsequently elected without opposition. In the Senate, as in the House, he was a worker rather than a talker. He will live longest to fame perhaps as the advocate of federal aid to road building. He was regarded by the advocates of this idea as their most enthusiastic and effective champion, and

succeeded by numerous public addresses throughout the Union in bringing to the plan considerable and enthusiastic support.

As a member of the Senate Committee on Immigration, he was appointed a member of the Immigration Commission, and during the spring and summer of 1907 toured the northern part of Europe investigating the subject of foreign immigration to this country. This investigation convinced him of the necessity for stricter laws against the influx of undesirable immigrants, and his opinion was set forth in an extensive report.

Of his standing in the Senate I shall let his colleague speak. Senator Tillman says:

We have been warm personal friends and political allies for nineteen years. I first became acquainted with him when I was governor of the State, and we have been warm friends ever since.

Senator Smith, of Michigan, says:

He was unpretentious, kindly, generous; always just and strong in his likes and dislikes. When he gave his friendship he gave without limit. He was a manly man in every sense, and if he had lived to work out his career, which was evidently open to him in the Senate, he would have become one of the very strong men in that body.

Senator Kean, of New Jersey, says:

While I did not know the Senator intimately, never having served with him on any committee, I was very sorry to hear of his death. It was a great shock to everyone. If you had looked around the Senate Chamber, and wondered who would be taken next, you would have never selected LATIMER.

Senator Carter, of Montana, adds this tribute:

His sudden and unexpected death was a great shock to me. His genial personality and kindly disposition endeared him to all of his associates regardless of locality or party affiliations. He will be greatly missed and long remembered.

On the morning of his death the distinguished chaplain of the Senate, Rev. Edward Everett Hale, touchingly referred to Senator LATIMER's death in his opening prayer:

Father, Thou art pleased to show to us day by day, month by month, hour by hour, that we are in Thy presence always and that we pass from

this life to that larger life; yes, in an instant, in the twinkling of an eye. Come to us to-day as we learn that another has gone from this circle, and that here and there Thou art pleased that he shall be serving Thee in that larger life. Speak to us, Father, and lead us as only a Father can lead us, by Thine own care and love, that we may learn the lesson of life and of what we call death.

We ask for ourselves, we ask for those who are nearest and dearest to us, we ask for the State that he has served and the Nation, that we may come nearer to Thee and enter into Thy divine life

Senator LATIMER was a member of the Methodist Church, and in this connection I desire to read from the Southern Christian Advocate, the organ of the Methodist Church in South Carolina, its tribute and that of his immediate pastor to the late Senator:

SENATOR A. C. LATIMER.

[Southern Christian Advocate.]

The State of South Carolina is called upon to mourn for one of her most honored citizens, Senator ASBURY C. LATIMER. After an operation upon him in a hospital in Washington, D. C., he died of peritonitis Thursday morning, February 20, 1908. His family was with him in his last hours. He was about 57 years of age.

Senator LATIMER was a man of high Christian character, and made a clean and pure representative in Congress. He was faithful in the discharge of his duties, both to church and state. A good and noble Christian man has been called to his reward on high. At our request, his pastor, Rev. R. L. Holroyd, has prepared the following tribute to his memory:

"In the death of Senator A. C. LATIMER, South Carolina Methodism has lost one of her most prominent members and staunchest friends. The Belton Church has lost a tower of strength. Brother LATIMER was not only a liberal contributor to the church both at home and abroad, but he was a wise counselor and a sincere friend to the cause. The people had confidence in his religious life. His public prayers were very earnest and touching. Often have I seen him and many of the congregation bathed in tears after what might be called one of his 'face-to-face talks with God.' He loved to talk to his friends on religious subjects. His conversion was clear-cut and unquestioned. He had his days of trial, but he never lost his hold on God.

"Brother LATIMER possessed for me, after three years of intimate association, a most charming personality. I loved him for his own sake; and now that he is gone, I pen these words with a sad heart—not sad because of any trace of doubt as to his future, but that inherent selfishness that hesitates to give up a loved one, though his state is far better.

"My last conversation with him was at his own home on the evening of December 27, 1907. He was just up from a case of grippe and was in a few days to go back to Washington. We raised the question of his personal salvation. He talked freely, as he had done on former occasions. And after rehearsing some of the difficulties in his way, growing out of his public duties, he said, with triumph, 'After all, my faith is stayed on God. I do love His church and His people.' He died very triumphantly. There was no cloud in his sky when the sun went down."

His request was that he be buried from the little church at Belton, which he loved, upon which he had bestowed much thought and labor, and where he was for a number of years the faithful superintendent of the Sunday school.

That his neighbors loved him was evidenced by the great number who gathered at the depot at Belton and awaited, in silence, the arrival of the special train that bore his body from Washington; and then through the intervening hours, viewing his body as it lay in the church so quietly and so much like his former self; and through the ceremony as provided in the book of discipline, and at the grave, until the last word was said committing his body to the grave, "Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust."

One very touching scene in connection with the funeral was the presence near the church of nearly fifty negroes who, desiring to see their former friend, were allowed to pass through the church. With subdued silence, many of them in tears, they viewed his body and went away with heavy hearts. He was a friend to all his people. They will miss him.

Rev. W. T. Tate, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Belton, and Rev. A. J. Caughen, presiding elder of Anderson district and a former pastor of the deceased, assisted in the funeral services.

I shall now read an editorial from the *Press and Banner*, of Abbeville County, the county of his birth, and one of the oldest and ablest papers in the State:

[*The Press and Banner*, Wednesday, February 26, 1908.]

THE LATE SENATOR LATIMER.

The people of the State were shocked to learn of the sudden illness and death of Senator ASBURY CHURCHWELL LATIMER. From the news sent out, hope of his recovery was entertained until his death was announced.

Senator LATIMER's biography would read like a romance. Left, as a result of the war, with little means, he did not have the advantages of collegiate or even of high-school education, yet with this handicap he attained the highest position in the gift of the people of his State. And it may be truthfully said that he has fulfilled the trust to the satisfaction of his constituents. He was, above all things, a worker, self-reliant

and persistent, and while this accounts in large measure for that popularity which kept him for ten years in the lower House and afterwards elected him to the Senate, it must not be forgotten that the ability and aggressiveness that he developed as a stump speaker enabled him to hold at bay some of the strongest men of the State when they entered the lists for the senatorship.

It is also well worthy of note that he was highly esteemed and honored by the Members of the Senate. His appointment by the Senate as one of the commission to visit Europe and investigate the question of immigration is a testimonial of the high esteem in which he was held by that body.

In the life of Senator LATIMER there is a striking illustration of a man truly estimating his own capabilities, and not overestimating his capabilities. He knew the channel of his adaptability and he broadened its scope year by year. Heedless of the small talk; of his lack of fitness that was indulged in by many in the early part of his political career, he bent himself to the task of improving himself, and how well he has done it the record shows.

Mr. Speaker, the career of Senator LATIMER, from a farm boy of limited means and education to a seat in the greatest deliberative body in the world, is only another testimonial to the greatness and glory of our Republic, where all men stand upon a plane of equality and equal opportunity. With us birth, ancestry, wealth, and social position are small considerations in determining our choice of public servants. With us the question can only be, Is he fit, is he honest, is he truly representative of the dominant ideas? It is the man we seek, the man representative of our traditions, history, thought, and aspirations. Further than this we do not look. Ours is truly a government of the people, by its representatives for the people.

In conclusion, I read the following beautifully expressed article from the Washington Herald of February 21, 1908:

SENATOR LATIMER'S DEATH.

Death at all times is awesome and profoundly impressive. To journey from out this vale of tears into that undiscovered country whence no traveler returns is to enter a mystery older than the hills and more wondrous than the universe itself.

Never is death more shocking, however, than when it seizes suddenly and almost without warning upon a man in the full bloom of health,

strength, and virility—such a man as Senator LATIMER, of South Carolina, appeared to be. A week ago he seemed reasonably sure of many years to come; to-day he is no more. A week ago he stood in the Senate Chamber of the United States—"the greatest and most august deliberative body on earth," as it has been so often and so truly called—the peer of any Member. His State had no higher honor to offer, his friends no greater boon to ask in his behalf. Nature seemed to have provided him with a robust constitution; pain, sickness, and vital weakness, apparently, were strangers to him. All in a moment his call came; he lingered a little while and passed away. His great office is vacant, his toga laid aside. He is but common clay, sinking into its destined lot.

Men who pause not to contemplate the sadness of this shocking incident in the country's forward march are not true men. The striking down of a public servant against whom no adverse word may be said is not an incident lightly to be thought upon. Those men out yonder on Capitol Hill hold in their keeping the destinies of the proudest Republic on earth. In the main they are good men, honest and patriotic. Nevertheless, we laugh at them, gibe them, criticise them, and often abuse them a good deal more than the occasion always justifies. We do this, perhaps, because it is our way of doing things; as a matter of fact, we entertain for them down in our hearts a large measure of respect.

The passing of Senator LATIMER—more than usually pathetic, as such things go—moves us to profound sorrow. He seemingly had so much to live for; to die upon the threshold of his career in the national forum was sad in the extreme.

ADDRESS OF MR. AIKEN, OF SOUTH CAROLINA

MR. SPEAKER: We feel the real chill of death only when it touches the sacred precincts where friendship and family ties are cherished.

Senator LATIMER and I were reared in the same county. I succeeded him as Representative from the third district of South Carolina after his promotion to the United States Senate. The most cordial relations existed between us to the day of his death. All of us have known him as an able and faithful representative; many of us have known him as a man and a friend.

To my mind there is no public man of recent years whose career is so rich in lessons of hope and inspiration to struggling youth as that of our lamented friend. He belongs decidedly to that class referred to by Lord Bacon, who achieved rather than inherited greatness. What his opportunity was, that was the exact measure of his success. ASBURY CHURCHWELL LATIMER was born near Lowndesville, Abbeville County, S. C., July 31, 1851. Coming to young manhood during the wreck of estates succeeding the war of secession, he, like so many southern youths of this period, gave of his time to labor in repairing the ravages of war at the cost of his better education, which was limited to the opportunities afforded by the disorganized common schools of that day.

On the 26th of June, 1877, Mr. LATIMER was married to Miss Sara Alice Brown, of Belton, S. C., and to them were born five children, all of whom survive. Shortly after his marriage he moved to Belton, Anderson County, adjoining the county of his birth.

As a young man, Mr. LATIMER was not dainty in selecting his work. His motto was, "That success lay not in the character of the work, but in the vim and thoroughness with which it was executed." Better things came to him because he did well the things of less import.

In 1890 Mr. LATIMER was elected chairman of the Democratic party in Anderson County, and was reelected in 1892. So well did his career commend itself to the people of that county that he was proposed as a candidate for Congress, and was elected in 1892, serving continuously for ten years. In a heated primary, in which he was opposed by some of the ablest men of South Carolina, he was elected to the United States Senate in 1902. His further public career is a matter of public record here.

Mr. LATIMER grew with his opportunities. When elected to Congress he had never held office and knew not the arts of public speaking. But the good name of an honest and strong-minded ancestry was his heritage, and with these he linked frankness of speech and that energy that commanded success. Realizing the great opportunity afforded to the observant man by service in Congress, he set himself to the task of self-improvement. Not only did he get a ready grasp of affairs in Congress, but he developed into one of the most effectual stump speakers in his State. He knew well the channel of his capabilities, and he seldom ventured beyond, but with each setting sun he broadened and deepened this channel.

Stranger than fiction is the fact of mortal existence. Some men spend their lives in the mire; some reach only the foothills; while a few climb to the eagle's crag on the cloud-shaded summit.

And they die an equal death—the idler and the man of mighty deeds.

When death claimed Senator LATIMER on the 20th day of February, 1908, he was strong and vigorous of mind and body. Ripening experiences had made him a safe counselor and an able Representative. He was open to the appeal of his people and effectual in executing their wishes. Humanly speaking, we would stay the dread messenger who would strike man in the prime of his usefulness when, from his vantage ground, he could direct the steps and lighten the burdens of the struggling masses. This Senator LATIMER did for his fellow-men, individually and collectively. Many were the young men, helplessly poor, who have been lifted by him to better things. His heart was tuned to sympathy's appeal, when in the struggles of his youth he felt her gentle touch. He championed the cause of the masses, and there he found that generous response that elevated him to position and stimulated him to higher and nobler endeavor.

He held his seat; a friend to human race.

When the shadows gather, when the waves of eternity break at our very feet, we pause in awe for a little moment, and with bowed head and with bated breath and in sorrow we lay our dead to rest. But what is that which we do not and can not bury? Yesterday it moved and animated this helpless mass, holding it up face to face with God, in whose image it was created. This is the spark of divinity, the real man. And is it dead? No more than the steam dies that yesterday quickened the giant locomotive. Returned to its original elements, yes; but not dead. Scientists tell us that annihilation is impossible in nature. Our thoughts, our words, our deeds—these are but evidences of the existing soul. These live when empires have crumbled. Then who will say that the fountain from which they spring has perished? Who will say that nature, constant in all things, in this one instant reverses its law and permits the annihilation of the soul?

No; in the essentials of being, our friend still lives, and will live throughout the ceaseless ages. Addison, the greatest of English critics, said of the soul:

The stars shall fade away, the sun himself
Grow dim with age, and nature sink in years.
But thou shalt flourish in immortal youth,
Unhurt amidst the wars of elements,
The wreck of matter, and the crush of worlds.

ADDRESS OF MR. STAFFORD, OF WISCONSIN

MR. SPEAKER: Were it not for the many amiable and endearing qualities that won my friendship for the late Senator ASBURY C. LATIMER, I would not be here paying my meed of praise to his memory. His strong individuality marked him as a man of commanding intellect, of strength of character and determined will that brought him to the exalted position which he held in the Senate and which had found recognition by service for five terms in the House of Representatives. To serve sixteen years continuously in the highest legislative councils of the nation is a distinction rarely achieved and shared only by those who have special merit and who prove by their devotion to service and loyalty to cause their worthiness of trust and confidence. But too rarely does this sacrificing service meet with proper appreciation by constituents whose representatives seek to do their utmost in their behalf.

A fourth of his living years was spent in the public service. The inestimable record he bequeathed to the State he honored is measured by the high reputation he gained that in this long period no suspicion of disloyalty to trust was ever cast upon his fair name.

With the untarnished record in public, private, and civic life that Senator ASBURY C. LATIMER bestowed upon his State, South Carolina may well place in its hall of notables this exemplar of civic righteousness, exalted purpose, and devoted public service, to be remembered by the present and coming generations as worthy of emulation and pride. If her succeeding public servants prove as faithful to trust as this dutiful citizen

of the Republic, its interests and that of the Union will be secure so long as the sisterhood of States remains intact.

A year has passed since his friends and colleagues were startled by the death of this apparently strong and well man, and in that brief span of a twelvemonth the appreciation in which he was held by his colleagues has not abated, nor will the perspective of history change the estimate that was placed upon him by his coworkers, who were best placed to judge of his work and of his worth.

The trait that impressed me most and must have left similar impression upon others was the absence of all sectional feeling in his attitude toward men and measures. He breathed no spirit of hate or hostility toward the North, though he was born and his young manhood was spent in the days of his State's travail following the civil war. It is this mellowing trait that so reflects the life, attitude, and trend of the new South that made Senator LATIMER a living exponent in principle and in achievement of the new policy of rejuvenation and rehabilitation of the Southland.

His labors in the cause of immigration and of movements indissolubly connected with his State and country's best development show that he was abreast in thought and movement, and was keen to recognize the opportunities of the present and the potentialities of the future.

Time has leveled the man of strong body and iron will to the memory of the past. Among the many Senators whose deaths in the last session eclipsed in somber shadow both House and Senate, no one is more sincerely missed than the illustrious son of the Palmetto State. He had a geniality that won him friends on first meeting. None could be his enemy and everyone his confidant. His beaming and open countenance reflected the honesty of purpose that was the inspiring motive in all his

career. No wonder, then, that as the representatives of the Senate and House returned the erstwhile healthy body to the native clay of South Carolina, Senators and Representatives who had associated with him in daily legislative work for years were really grieved at the loss of this sage counselor, wise legislator, and true friend.

ADDRESS OF MR. ELLERBE, OF SOUTH CAROLINA

MR. SPEAKER: To the soldier who, drunk with excitement and the lust of battle, goes forth to fight, and dies facing the foe, we give the name of hero.

Yet the narrow confines of the hospital ward is often the scene of far braver struggles than those of warfare. In February, 1908, at Providence Hospital in this city, Senator ASBURY LATIMER made a last heroic resistance to the great enemy—Death.

With no martial music to inspire him, with no cheering army to make him forget the danger, he fought for life steadfastly, silently, heroically, and when vanquished he died like a hero, with a smile for those who loved him.

And Senator LATIMER longed to live. Life had meant to him successful achievement of ambitions which had grown with his growth.

It is hardly possible that as a youth even imagination whispered to him of the honors he would win in the future, for ASBURY LATIMER as a boy had only one claim to fortune—he was an American!

That, and that alone, made possible his wonderful progress.

In another land even his indefatigable energy, his receptive mind, and his ready grasp of conditions could never have met with the acknowledgment that was given to them in this great Republic—this Government “of the people, by the people, and for the people.”

Year by year, as one by one obstacles in his pathway were overcome, his ideals grew higher and another step was taken toward the honored position which he held at the time of his death.

It is not my purpose to review the life and work of Senator LATIMER. That has been already fully and ably done by my colleagues. I would simply add my tribute of admiration and respect for those qualities of heart and brain which made Senator ASBURY LATIMER a true and worthy Representative of the proud old State of South Carolina.

ADDRESS OF MR. FINLEY, OF SOUTH CAROLINA

MR. SPEAKER: On the 20th day of February last the announcement was made to the House that the Hon. ASBURY CHURCHWELL LATIMER, an honored Member of the Senate of the United States, a former Member of this body, and a distinguished citizen of the State of South Carolina, had passed away. Senator LATIMER's illness was of short duration. He died at Providence Hospital, in this city, surrounded by the members of his family—his sorrowing wife and grief-stricken children. Everything that human agency could accomplish had been employed to prolong his life and to combat the fatal disease. On an occasion like this we are brought face to face with the realities of life and the certainty of death; that when life's activities are ended we must cross the river, where passengers go over, but do not return. We pass from mortality in this life to immortality beyond the grave.

And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

I have never been able to understand how one can believe otherwise than in the doctrine of the immortality of the soul. This life is but a span; the future is eternity. Preparation is made here for the life to come. We have the great apostle saying:

If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

So that the man whose hope in Christ extends beyond the grave, at death is not miserable.

Senator LATIMER was born July 31, 1851, on his father's farm near Lowndesville, Abbeville County, S. C., where his early life was spent. His father was a farmer, and the future Senator

was brought up inured to all the practices and usages incident to a boy's life on the farm. He attended the old-fashioned country school. When his services were needed, he labored on the farm. His early experiences included the years preceding and including the civil war. When this cruel war was over, the people of the Southland commenced anew the struggles of life, and the future Senator, in common with others, worked. This, nowever, proves the stability of our institutions—that the way to the highest position is open to all. Senator LATIMER possessed splendid talent for business. He succeeded to an eminent degree in all of his business undertakings. In the memorable campaign of 1876, when the white people of South Carolina used every effort to redeem the State from carpetbag, scalawag, and negro domination, Senator LATIMER played an important part. Bold, aggressive, and patriotic, he assumed a leadership that inspired his neighbors and produced results. I remember how Anderson, his home county, contributed largely to the election of Wade Hampton, governor of South Carolina, and the restoration of white rule in the Palmetto State. In 1890 he took an active part in party politics, contributing to the election of governor, now Senator, Benjamin Ryan Tillman. He declined to permit his friends to use his name for lieutenant-governor on the ticket with Governor Tillman.

In 1892 he was elected to Congress from the Third Congressional District of South Carolina; was reelected to the Fifty-fourth, Fifty-fifth, Fifty-sixth, and Fifty-seventh Congresses. During his ten years' service in Congress he endeared himself to his constituents by industriously looking after their welfare in a material way. In 1902 he was elected to the United States Senate over strong competition in the Democratic primary. Senator LATIMER had at heart the welfare of the rural population. He labored industriously to promote their interest. On account of his environments, largely conditions growing out of

the civil war, he was denied ample educational advantages. He made up for this in a large measure by effort and continuous industry in after life. Success in life must be measured by results accomplished. Judged by this standard, Senator LATIMER's life was a success. He started in life handicapped by many disadvantages. He earned the good will and well done of the people amongst whom he lived. He achieved political prominence and wealth. On the occasion of his funeral, one year ago to-day in the Methodist Church where for a quarter of a century he attended and was an active and influential member, at his home town, Belton, S. C., the highest tribute that could be paid to Senator LATIMER was paid by his neighbors, rich and poor. Every class of those amongst whom he lived sorrowed and lamented for that they had lost—a friend. "Peace to his ashes."

Mr. FINLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that Members who desire to do so may have leave within five days to print remarks in the Record on the life, character, and public services of the late Senator LATIMER.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Now, in pursuance of the several resolutions and as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, the House (at 5.28 o'clock p. m.) stands adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.



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